

campaign, and became a member of the Advisory Committee and in other ways was most active.

His work in this campaign in connection with his law practice, probably overtaxed his strength and was perhaps a strong contributing factor to the stroke of paralysis he received on the evening of election day. On this day he visited almost every polling place in Frederick County, urging and enthusing his workers by his presence.

Judge Motter also found time, during the most active part of his life, to assist in promoting the material interests of Frederick County. He was President of the Emmitsburg Railroad Company, a director in the Citizen's National Bank, at one time a director of the Electric Railroad of Frederick, a director of the Hygeia Ice Company, a member of the Building Committee of the Masonic Order and of the Elks. For over 32 years he was President of the Junior Fire Company.

#### EDGAR H. GANS.

Edgar H. Gans was born at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, November 24th, 1856, and died September 20th, 1914. He was the son of Daniel and Margaret Schwartz Gans. His father was a judge of the Orphan's Court of Baltimore, and in his earlier life was, for many years, a prominent minister of the German Reformed Church. *Mr.* Gans descended on the paternal side from German and Scotch-Irish ancestors, and from German forbears on the maternal side. He was educated in the public schools of Norristown, near Philadelphia. His family removed to Baltimore in 1870, where in 1875 he graduated with highest honors from the City College. In 1877 he graduated with distinction from the University of Maryland Law School. In the same year he was admitted to the bar and commenced to practice law. He was first associated

with the office of John P. Poe, who introduced him to the courts and from whom he received opportunities to try cases of importance and to aid in the preparation of briefs. These opportunities were eagerly embraced, and his early briefs won for him the approbation of leaders of the bar.

In 1879 *Mr.* Gans was appointed Deputy State's Attorney, under Charles G. Kerr, for the Criminal Court of Baltimore. He continued in this position eight years. Here he "toiled terribly," laying securely the foundation of his future fame. His notable public work for pure elections was begun in these years. He then gained the temporary hatred and future respect of the "ballot thieves" he so unsparingly denounced and so faithfully prosecuted. During his incumbency of this office he tried many important cases with distinction to himself and profit to the State. In such cases he was pitted against some of the ablest men at the bar,—William Pinkney Whyte, Joseph Heusler, Senator Vorhees and others. At all times he maintained his reputation as one of the most astute members of the bar, and a young lawyer of great promise.

After retiring from this office, *Mr.* Gans pursued his profession actively, gaining a distinguished reputation as a trial lawyer and a counselor. His ability as a criminal lawyer and prosecutor secured for him the appointment of the professorship on criminal law in the University of Maryland in 1882, a post which he held until about 1901, when his increasing practice compelled his resignation. He retained, however, his membership in the Board of Regents of the University.

*Mr.* Gans was employed by the United States Government and by the State of Maryland in the conduct of important prosecutions. Perhaps the best known of the Federal cases was the Ching fraudulent census case in lower Maryland.

*Mr.* Gans was at the time of his death a member of the American, the Maryland and the Baltimore Bar Associa-

tions. He had a membership in the University, Maryland, Baltimore Country and Elkridge Hunt Clubs. He had received honorary degrees of LL.D. from Loyola College of Baltimore, and Mt. St. Mary's, of Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The growth and development of his powers as a speaker and writer were most interesting. In his first debating society he needed the rule which compelled each speaker to occupy the floor not less than three minutes. He was at first slow of speech and easily embarrassed; the style of his early compositions was plain and almost arid in its simplicity. He clung ever to the substance, despising mere form, yet he acquired a finished style. The sweep of some of his opinions and the grace of his papers on ethical subjects are strongly suggestive of Cardinal Newman's writings, which he greatly admired. One can recall ringing bursts of true and lofty eloquence in many of his speeches, notably the really great summing up in the case of the State vs. Editors of the Evening News. These stirring addresses were chiefly made in the golden years between thirty and forty, when work was an inspiration and weariness almost unknown. His later style, which some one called his "Court of Appeals manner," was dignified and highly impressive, reminding one of some of the leaders of the English Bar, notably Sir Edward Clarke.

Mr. Gans was most painstaking and thorough in the preparation of causes. He often said cases were won in the law library. No detail of preparation was neglected. He considered it almost disgraceful for the antagonist to find a precedent he had not read. His long and severe training made him a specialist in many fields of law. Perhaps his best quality, in court and out of court, was his earnest search for truth. In this search he wrought with sad sincerity. He could not deck out half-truths with tawdry rhetoric. The manipulation of arguments was for

him an unknown art. He first marshalled the real facts as he saw them in orderly array; his luminous and powerful intellect would then lead them to an apparently irresistible conclusion, with a certain spirit and eclat, as an army is led by its banners.

#### OSCAR WOLFF.

On the 16th of January, 1915, Oscar Wolff died in the 56th year of his age.

His father, Alexander Wolff, was a German of good birth and high education, who was a revolutionist in 1848 and because of his earnestness in struggling for the realization of his democratic ideas was compelled to give up the country of his birth.

After suffering imprisonment, shipwreck and "perils both by land and water," he arrived in Baltimore penniless, but with high ambition and unbroken spirit.

He soon established himself and gained a large clientele among the most substantial of our citizens of German birth.

In 1858 he married Harriet Ann Evans, of Cecil County, Maryland, one of a family that had lived in this State for many generations.

Oscar Wolff showed in his character both his German and his native American blood. In painstaking thoroughness and in capacity for making the most out of the joys of life, and in his craving and genius for friendship he showed the Teuton, while no American ever had greater quickness of perception, a more acute sense of humor or a nimbler wit.

His education was gained at Loyola College and the University of Maryland Law School.

He was admitted to the bar in June, 1881, and in 1882 formed a co-partnership with Alfred S. Niles, which con-